

# FATHOM THIS!

The monthly newsletter from San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park

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Welcome to the April issue of Fathom This! San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park is your national park on San Francisco's historic waterfront. Come visit and take in the many programs the park and its partner, the San Francisco Maritime National Park Association, have to offer. For a complete list of program descriptions, dates, times, and fees, please see the park website at <http://www.nps.gov/safr/>, and the Park Association's website at <http://www.maritime.org>, or call the the park's Visitor Center, open daily, 9:30am-5:00pm, at 415-447-5000. We hope to see you during National Park Week (see below) or sometime soon!

Fathom This! is sent monthly. If you would like to receive it, or cancel, please email the editor at [peter\\_kasin@nps.gov](mailto:peter_kasin@nps.gov). Your name and email is never loaned or sold to any outside organization or individual(s). Feel free to forward this newsletter to interested parties, and enter its contents, in whole or in part, into blogs.

## NATIONAL PARK WEEK

*April 17-25. Free admission to Hyde Street Pier historic ships, daily 9:30am-5:00pm, and to all national parks. Information: 415-447-5000.*

This month we celebrate National Park Week, along with national parks across the country! Fees for visiting the historic ships at Hyde Street Pier are waived April 17-25, as are entrance fees in all national parks. On Saturday, April 24, national parks across the country celebrate **Junior Ranger Day**. Children take part in kid-friendly activities

and earn their very own Junior Ranger badge! We are planning a number of activities. For more information, please call the Visitor Center at 415-447-5000, open daily, 9:30am-5:00pm.

### **WELCOME NEW SFMNPA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TED W. REGAN**

The San Francisco Maritime National Park Association (SFMNPA) is the park's member supported non-profit cooperating association. The SFMNPA organizes a number of experiential youth programs and adult maritime skills classes, and helps fund a myriad of park projects. The SFMNPA also manages the World War II submarine *Pampanito*, berthed at San Francisco's Pier 45.

We welcome the SFMNPA's new Executive Director, Ted W. Regan. Mr. Regan is a native of coastal Maine and a graduate of the Maine Maritime Academy. He is a former merchant mariner and an accomplished blue water expedition leader. Asked about his new appointment, he replied, "The opportunity to manage the venerable Maritime Park Association, a salt water organization for sure, represents a near perfect intersection of my professional experiences as both a non-profit director and former merchant sailor."

Having founded a school on an island off of Maine, Regan knows well the benefits of a solid collaboration: "Being in partnership with a national park with such extraordinary maritime resources allows the Association to offer world-class experiential education programs to area youth in need." Regan's response to relocating to California was simply: "Who knew!? I now know why none of my friends ever returned to Maine!"

### **YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRAMS UPDATE**

#### **Explorers Program**

On April 9, the San Francisco Maritime National Park Association, in cooperation with the NPS, is proud to begin the Spring season of our youth Explorers Program aboard the historic scow schooner *Alma*. Recently, the Association was awarded the Sail Training Organization of the Year (Small vessels) at the Sail Training International Awards, in Istanbul. This prestigious award is given to an organization that operates a smaller sail training vessel for demonstrating excellence in innovation and best practice in sail training for young people.

#### **Youth Boat Building and Sailing Program**

On April 5th, the SFMNPA, in cooperation with the San Francisco Unified School District, the NPS, and the Sea Scouts, will begin this year's program of boat building and sailing for underprivileged High School aged youth. In 14 classes and through the process of building a traditional wooden boat from scratch, our students develop a new attitude towards school and themselves. By immersing them in a collaborative project and supporting them in the acquisition of hard skills, they develop confidence in themselves and their own abilities. Additionally, these activities illuminate the power of making positive life choices and solidify a belief in their abilities to see something through to the finish.

For more information on how to become involved in either program, contact Seth Muir, Education Director for the San Francisco Maritime National Park Association, at 415-292-6664, or 415-215-6291, or email: [smuir@maritime.org](mailto:smuir@maritime.org).

## KLEBINGAT LECTURE SERIES: THE PORT CHICAGO MUTINY

*Saturday, April 10, 6:00pm, in the Maritime Library, Fort Mason Center, Bldg. E, 3rd Floor. Wheelchair accessible by elevator. Reservations and Information: 415-561-7040.* Join us for the film *Mutiny*, a drama about the infamous Port Chicago Mutiny, the worst homefront disaster of World War II. On July 17, 1944, 320 Navy seamen, most of whom were African American, died when two munitions ships they were loading blew up at the Port Chicago Ammunition Depot. When 50 African American ammunition loaders refused to return to their jobs under what they saw as unsafe working conditions, they were accused by White officers of mutiny, court-martialed, and imprisoned until the end of the war.

This dramatic version will be followed by the documentary *The Port Chicago Mutiny: The Real Story*, and a discussion of the differences between the fictionalized story and the documentary presentation.

**The Maritime Libray** is open 3rd Saturday of each month, 10am-5pm. Also by appointment, M-F afternoons. Immediate appointments usually available. 415-561-7030, or ring doorbell.

## NEW IN HISTORIC DOCUMENTS

*Historic Documents located on the top floor of the Maritime Library, Fort Mason Center, Bldg. E, 3rd Floor. Appointments: 415-561-7030.*

Research your West Coast maritime history through rare primary sources, open for you to study. Recently catalogued is the John North Shipbuilding Company ledger (SAFR 285, HDC 493), comprising a list of vessels constructed between 1852-1866 by this San Francisco firm, then located at the foot of 3rd Street. It also contains a detailed inventory of materials and labor costs in building the schooner *Susan & Kate Denin* (named after two famous actresses). Added entries include the *Admiral Kasakewitch*, the *Contra Costa*, and the *James Blair* (steamships).

## LINKS

<http://www.nps.gov/safr/> San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park.

<http://www.maritime.org> San Francisco Maritime National Park Association, the park's non-profit member-supported cooperating association.

<http://maritimelibraryfriends.org> Friends of the San Francisco Maritime Museum Library, the park library's non-profit member-supported cooperating association.

<http://www.whydestreetlivinghistory.org> The park Living History program's volunteer created and managed website.

<http://www.corsair-viking.org> The San Francisco Sea Scouts, the park's neighboring partner in Aquatic Park.